

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

1. (Canceled).

2. (Canceled).

3. (Canceled).

4. (Canceled).

5. (Canceled).

6. (Canceled).

7. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1 or 2 for inhibiting abnormal bradykinin-induced myometrial contraction, comprising administering to the patient in need of treatment, a therapeutically effective amount of adrenomedullin, wherein the adrenomedullin is:

(a.) a peptide comprising an amino acid sequence from Ser in position 13 to Tyr in position 52 of SEQ ID NO: 2; or

~~(b.) a peptide comprising an amino acid sequence having one or several amino acid deleted, substituted, or added in the amino acid sequence (a), and having an action of inhibiting myometrial contraction.~~

8. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1 or 2 for inhibiting abnormal bradykinin-induced myometrial contraction, comprising administering to the patient in need of treatment, a therapeutically effective amount of adrenomedullin, wherein the adrenomedullin is:

~~(e.)~~(b.) a peptide comprising an amino acid sequence from Tyr in position 1 to Tyr in position 52 of SEQ ID NO: 2; ~~or~~

~~(d.) a peptide comprising an amino acid sequence having one or several amino acid deleted, substituted, or added in the amino acid sequence (e), and having an action of inhibiting myometrial contraction.~~

9. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1 or 2 for inhibiting abnormal bradykinin-induced myometrial contraction, comprising administering to the patient in need of treatment, a therapeutically effective amount of adrenomedullin, wherein the adrenomedullin is:

~~(e.)~~(c.) a peptide comprising an amino acid sequence from Ala in position -73 to Tyr in position 52 of SEQ ID NO: 2; ~~or~~

~~(f.) a peptide comprising an amino acid sequence having one or several amino acid deleted, substituted, or added in the amino acid sequence (e), and having an action of inhibiting myometrial contraction.~~

10. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1 or 2 for inhibiting abnormal bradykinin-induced myometrial contraction, comprising administering to the patient in need of treatment, a therapeutically effective amount of adrenomedullin, wherein the adrenomedullin is:

~~(g.)~~(d.) a peptide comprising an amino acid sequence from Met in position -94 to Leu in position 91 of SEQ ID NO: 2; ~~or~~

~~(h.) a peptide comprising an amino acid sequence having one or several amino acid deleted, substituted, or added in the amino acid sequence (g), and having an action of inhibiting myometrial contraction.~~

11. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim ~~4 or 2~~ 10, wherein the C-terminus of the adrenomedullin is amidated.

12. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim ~~4 or 2~~ 10, wherein Gly is added to the C-terminus of the adrenomedullin.

13. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim ~~4 or 2~~ 10, wherein in the adrenomedullin, Cys in position 16 and Cys in position 21 of SEQ ID NO: 2 are crosslinked.

14. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 13, wherein the crosslink is a disulfide bond.

15. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 13, wherein the crosslink is a -CH₂-CH₂- bond.

16. (Canceled).

17. (Canceled).

18. (Canceled).

19. (New) A method according to claim 10, wherein the adrenomedullin is a peptide having an amino acid sequence which has about 60% homology with the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2, and having an action of inhibiting myometrial contraction.

20. (New) A method according to claim 10, wherein the adrenomedullin is a peptide having an amino acid sequence which has about 70% homology with the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2, and having an action of inhibiting myometrial contraction.

21. (New) A method according to claim 10, wherein the adrenomedullin is a peptide having an amino acid sequence which has about 80% homology with the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2, and having an action of inhibiting myometrial contraction.

22. (New) A method according to claim 10, wherein the adrenomedullin is a peptide having an amino acid sequence which has about 90% homology with the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2, and having an action of inhibiting myometrial contraction.